



Dear Parents,



Peace! It is that time when we turn the calendar and say goodbye to the blessings and challenges of October. During this month of November, may we be aware of our many blessings from the time we open our eyes, to when we close them for a peaceful sleep. May the time between closing our eyes and opening them be filled with a peaceful rest and pleasant dreams.



Many thanks to our faculty, parents and students who were actively involved in our Theater Week presentation, *“Adventures with Dr. Dendrite”*. Once again we are amazed at what the children accomplish in four afternoon rehearsals. For those unable to attend the performance, the gist of the story is Dr. Dendrite is contemplating retiring as it appears no one in this age of technology has use for or appreciation of his most treasured possession, the human brain. In a skit that finds three students caught in a time warp, stranded on a mysterious island they discover if they use their brain power and their “multiple intelligences”, while ***Remaining in God***, they can find their way home. While on the island they met Egyptians, Rock and Roll stars, Mozart, Queen Elizabeth I, Vikings, Einstein, Cave People, Hamlet, DaVinci, Cow Girls, Astronauts, Contestant Rihanna, Octavia, an Army and a Castaway. The show ended with the cast singing, *“With every move I make, I take in Jesus”*. Congratulations to all. It was a delightful evening, filled with talent and positive energy.

Multiple Intelligences  
Ways We Can Be Smart

- Verbal Linguistic - Word Smart
- Logical Mathematical - Logic or Number Smart
- Musical Rhythmic - Music Smart
- Visual Spatial - Picture Smart
- Bodily Kinesthetic - Body Smart
- Intrapersonal - Self Smart
- Interpersonal - People Smart
- Naturalist - Nature Smart



We will continue to address Multiple Intelligences throughout the year. It is a practical way of acknowledging the many different ways a student learns. At the end of the 8th grade year, students choose the intelligence they are strongest in and are recognized for that strength during the ceremony.

Last Friday afternoon we met with our prayer partners to construct a neuron with yarn, pom-poms, beads and construction paper. The next activity in our Brian Symposium will be to design a brain cap naming the four lobes of the cerebrum: The Parietal Lobe, The Frontal Lobe, The Temporal Lobe and The Occipital Lobe. Different activities will occur throughout the year.



We ended October with The Parable of the Three Pumpkins. One pumpkin is plain, one pumpkin has a face painted on the outside but does nothing to change on the inside. The third pumpkin is a Jack O Lantern. The pumpkin loses some of itself so that the light can shine through its eyes, nose and mouth. This is a great story that leads us into the celebration of November 1, The Feast of All Saints. When we joined together for Eucharist on Friday morning we honored all those saintly men, women and children who have gone before us, giving us an example of how to love as disciples of Jesus. We also remembered the “living saints” among us who challenge us to “Remain In God” with our words, actions, etc. Each time we gather for Eucharist we celebrate and participate in The “Communion of Saints”. This is a great comfort for all those who have lost loved ones and are now living in the heart of God.

Saturday, November 2nd, is All Souls Day. As you know it is the day the church remembers all those who have gone back to the heart of God. Each class received a paper sunflower. Students had an opportunity to write down the names of deceased loved ones. We placed those names on the wall outside the gym so that they may be seen and remembered by all.



Our students had a voting experience on Tuesday, November 5th. The 8th grade students presented the history of three different kinds of candy and the reason why their candy should be voted as number one. After the presentations each student received a ballot and voted for their choice from Hershey Kiss, Gummy Bears or Trident gum. Tally completed and Trident gum is the winner. We did our best to provide a politically free environment.

Application for the Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program for the 2025-2026 school year will be open online November 1st. Please click [HERE](#) for more information and the application. If you think you will need assistance please complete the application. Reminder in order to qualify for parish financial assistance, you must first apply for diocesan financial assistance.



We will honor our veterans at the 9:00 AM liturgy on Friday, November 8th. Please encourage any veteran you know to come, be recognized and celebrate. We are indebted to them for their service to our country. Join us for morning refreshments in Pedata Hall after our liturgy. As in the past our veterans are invited to join us for our annual Spaghetti Dinner on Wednesday, November 13th, at 6:15 PM in the school cafeteria. Please call the school office if you have a veteran who will be attending or you may [RSVP HERE](#). This dinner will also be with our second grade class. Thanks to all our volunteers who make these dinners possible.



Our Annual Christmas Bazaar will be on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Many special thanks to all who have been planning and preparing for this special event. We are ever so grateful. The day promises to be filled with all good things. There will be a special visit from Santa around 10:00 am. We look forward to seeing you, our alum and their families. Thanks in advance for planning to attend.

On Thursday, November 14th, we have a variety of activities scheduled for the children. We ask all children to wear their gym uniforms. We are hoping to give the teachers additional prep time as they complete the new report card and get ready for conferences. Parent Portal will close the morning of Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> and re-open on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> after 2:00 PM. Report cards will be available online at that time.



Conferences will be held on Friday, November 22nd, Monday, November 25th and Tuesday, November 26th. Thank you for filling out the request form online whether you would prefer in person or zoom. You should have received your exact date and time this week.

The National Catholic Education Association has named the week of November 17th, Discover Catholic School Week, different from our annual celebration in January. This is the time to plant seeds in the hearts of those you know who are looking for a school that will provide a strong academic curriculum in a God-centered environment. Encourage your family, neighbors and friends to **COME AND SEE THE DIFFERENCE**. Personal tours are available upon request.



The Class of 2024 will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, November 20th. Pray with and for them that they will be open to God's Spirit now and throughout their lives.



We continue to discover the ways we can **Remain in God**, staying connected to Jesus the Vine. How appropriate we are praying for the Fruits of the Spirit as we prepare a cornucopia for our Thanksgiving celebrations. May every piece of fruit remind us of a particular gift God's Spirit wishes to share with us. In his letter to the Galatians, St. Paul lists the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Gal 5:22-23)



Basketball tryouts for students in grades 5-8 have started. Tryout flyers were sent out to eligible students. Please remind your child these are tryouts and not a guarantee they made the team. Help them to understand that depending on numbers who come out and skills needed to play, the coaches may need to make cuts. We are deeply grateful to our coaches for all they do for the teams. The Joe Longshore JV Boys Basketball Tournament will be held on Friday, November 22nd and Saturday, November 23rd. Good luck to all participants.

The first Sunday of Advent is December 1st. Join with us please as we help your family prepare your hearts and homes for the great feast of Christmas. We will do our best to live the "Advent Spirit" during our three weeks prior to December 25th. There will be numerous outreach programs that you will be invited to support. Our deepest thanks in advance for your kindness and goodness in teaching your children to reach out to those in need.



The Sisters of St. Joseph will have their Annual Chance Drive through November. The drawing for the grand prize of \$10,000 and five prizes of \$500 will be on Wednesday, December 11. Envelopes will be in church weekends in November. To buy chances online, please [CLICK HERE](#). Know that we are grateful and appreciate whatever you can do. All proceeds benefit our elderly and ill Sisters at St. Joseph Villa.

Special thanks to our Volleyball and Soccer teams and coaches. We are grateful for your spirit, time and skill. Thanks for representing SJA in such a positive way.



We continue to ask you to be vigilant about your child's use of technology. We will be scheduling an appointment with Detective Christopher DeFrancesco to speak with our 5th-8th grade students about the benefits and challenges of the digital world.

As we prepare for the great feast of Thanksgiving, you are invited to reflect on the word, *EUCCHARIST*, which means *THANKSGIVING*. We invite you to join our parish community every weekend. Come, celebrate and receive Jesus regularly. Listen to the scriptures. Pay attention to the words of the hymns, participate in the prayers. Know that we support you as you deepen your own faith life and that of your child/children.

Moms, grandmoms, aunts are invited to our annual Advent Morning on Friday, December 6th, after 9:00 AM liturgy. More details to come.

In 24 days November will be another memory. As it fades into the last month of 2024, may our hearts be ever grateful for our numerous gifts and blessings. Thank you for who you are and all that you do to promote SJA.



God's Blessings!  
Happy Thanksgiving!  
Sister Pat